

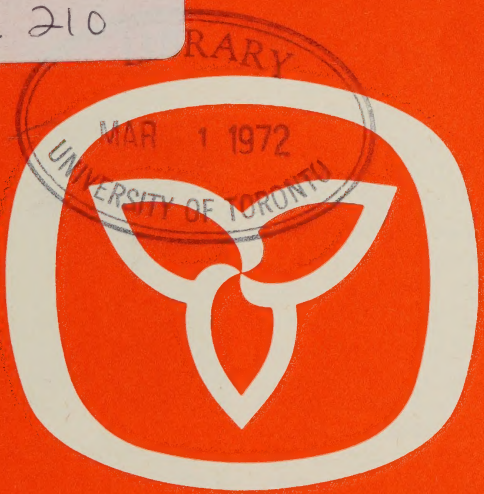
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Government
Publications

Social and Family Services

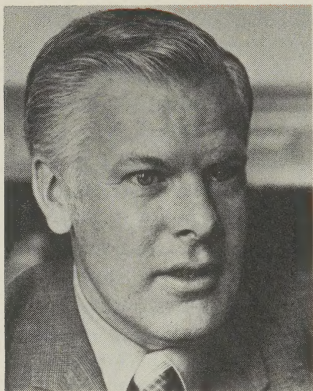
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Opportunities for the handicapped

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Honourable Thomas L. Wells



Vocational rehabilitation is one of our programs to aid disabled persons in Ontario. It includes help with their disability, counselling, training and assistance in preparing for and finding a job.

My Department offers this program to help handicapped men and women earn a living. The costs are shared by the Province and the Federal Government under the terms of a Federal-Provincial agreement.

Through this program handicapped people have been helped to prepare for, and secure, employment both in the open labour market and in sheltered workshops.

I hope the information in this pamphlet will help you. If you want further assistance, I encourage you to contact one of the regional offices of this Department.

Who Can be Helped?

The services may be provided to any person of working age who has a physical, mental or emotional disability which handicaps him in trying to earn a living. Eligibility does not depend on the nature of the disability, and services are available to those with unseen handicaps as well as those with visible disabilities. Similarly, a person's eligibility for services does not depend on the cause of the disability, which may have been present from birth or the result of a later illness or accident. Often the handicapped person may be working but through Vocational Rehabilitation may find much better employment.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services cannot be offered to those who are eligible for similar services from the Department of Veterans' Affairs, or the Workman's Compensation Board.

Individual Help

A wide range of services is available to the disabled person, and under a rehabilitation plan each person will receive the combination of services

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which meet his or her individual need.

The following types of assessment are provided to determine the person's eligibility and the type of services required:

Medical: — To learn the extent of disability, work capacity, and possibility of improvement.

Social: — To determine with the individual his personal and other resources and how these may be used and developed.

Vocational: — To evaluate potential for various occupations.

Individual counselling and guidance is provided to help the disabled man or woman choose and prepare for a suitable type of work.

Restoration services are offered to restore or im-



prove a person's ability to work. Appliances, restorative surgery, treatment and comprehensive emergency medical services can be provided during vocational training.

Vocational training is

offered to provide education and skills for a suitable occupation. Training may be given in technical and vocational schools, business and trade schools, institutes of technology, colleges and universities, sheltered workshops, or through on-the-job training in industry and business.

To help the disabled person find the right type of employment, the Department uses employment placement. Directly, or in co-operation with the placement services of counsellors of Canada Manpower Division of the Department of Manpower and Immigration, the disabled person is helped to find suitable employment in all areas of the labour market, including the professions, self-employment, homemaking, farming, and sheltered and homebound employment.

Maintenance and Transportation Allowances are available to pay living expenses to the disabled person who, without such an allowance, would be unable to take full benefit of vocational training. To receive a living allowance, a disabled person must ordinarily be a resident of Ontario and have liquid assets of not more than \$1,000 plus \$200 for each dependent. A person receiving an allowance

under The Adult Occupational Training Act is not eligible to receive a vocational rehabilitation allowance.

The amount of the allowance varies with the number of dependants for whom a recipient is responsible. If it is necessary for a person to change his residence in order to take training, the maintenance allowance is increased. Premium-free hospital and medical benefits are included.

Occupational tools and equipment can help a person to get started in a job. Usually one or more of these services are involved in the rehabilitation plan. Each client has a rehabilitation counsellor who provides vocational guidance and counselling, and obtains and co-ordinates the other services which may be needed. Assessment, counselling, training, job-placement, and follow-up services, are provided without charge. The client, if he is able, may be expected to pay for the needed medical services.

Rehabilitation Workshop Services

As designated by the Federal-Provincial agreement, assistance is given to organizations which

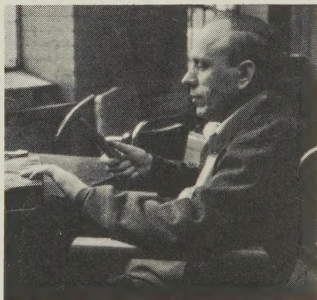
serve the disabled, in order to co-ordinate their activities and stimulate their growth, and thereby ensure a comprehensive network of services to all disabled persons in the Province.

The Department of Social and Family Services provides grants towards the cost of operating rehabilitation workshops. The monthly grant for helping workshops meet their supervisory staff salaries is \$25 per month per handicapped person employed.

In addition to operating grants, financial assistance is provided to organizations which operate rehabilitation workshops. Grants of up to 25% of the cost are made to assist with the capital costs of construction, acquisition, alterations, renovations, cost of land, and equipment.

You Can Appeal

If you feel your needs are not being met as a reci-



ipient of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, or believe you are in need and entitled to assistance and have been refused, you can request a hearing by writing to:
Chairman,
Board of Review,
Room M1-57,
Department of Social and Family Services,
Parliament Buildings,
Toronto, Ontario.

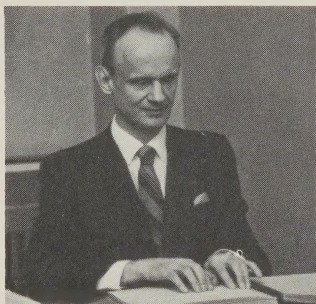
What About Financial Help?

The Ontario Department of Social and Family Services provides other services for the disabled, in addition to individual vocational rehabilitation programs and aid to sheltered workshops.

Family Benefits is the provincial social assistance program for the handicapped who are likely to be in need for a long time. To qualify for Family Benefits, a person can have \$1,000 liquid assets, plus \$200 for each dependent. An additional \$300 is allowed where the spouse is over 60. To qualify, a family's income must be less than their needs. A person receiving Family Benefits who is disabled, is eligible for an extra amount in his cheque for travelling costs. The disabled are eligible for a \$15 monthly travel allowance; the disabled who are confined to a wheelchair, and the

blind are eligible for \$30 monthly.

Needy disabled persons who are residents in a Home for the Aged, Charitable Institution, nursing home, or Home for Retarded Persons, are eligible for, in addition to their care which is shared by the Department and the institution, a comfort allowance of \$25 plus



the travel allowance.

Disabled persons who are recipients of Family Benefits can be assisted by other Departmental services such as Family Services for counselling. For information on Family Benefits, contact the nearest Regional Office listed on the back of this brochure.

Maybe You Need A Special Residence

Under The Charitable Institutions Act, the Department of Social and Family Services helps

non-profit groups build and operate homes for people who are handicapped. Bellwoods Park, Participation House, and Marina Lodge Toronto, provide this type of care. The Department also assists the Canadian National Institute for the Blind to build and operate residences for the blind. There are nine in Ontario. For information on establishing such a Home or becoming a resident, contact:

Adult Residences,
Homes for the
Aged Branch,
Ontario Department of
Social and Family
Services,
5th floor, Hepburn Block,
Queen's Park, Toronto.

Under The Homes for Retarded Persons Act, the Department helps non-profit groups build and operate residences for the mentally retarded of all ages. There are 13 such Homes in Ontario. Under the Children's Boarding Homes Act, homes which board more than five unrelated children under the age of 16 are supervised by the Department. For information on establishing such a Home or becoming a resident, contact:

Children's and Youth
Institutions Branch,
Ontario Department of
Social and Family
Services,

7th Floor, Hepburn Block,
Queen's Park, Toronto.

Day Care Can Help

The Department of Social and Family Services helps organizations, such as the Ontario Association for the Mentally Retarded, and the Ontario Society for Crippled Children, operate day care programs which take into account the special need of the mentally retarded and physically handicapped. There are approximately 60 day care centres in Ontario that serve these special needs. For information on how to start, or apply to a nursery, contact: Day Nurseries Branch,



Ontario Department of
Social and Family
Services,
7th Floor, Hepburn Block,
Queen's Park, Toronto.

Ontario's Health Services

Handicapped people benefit from various programs offered by the Ontario Department of

Health. In-patient and out-patient services are available for people who are mentally ill, mentally retarded or chronically ill. The Department of Health is responsible for licensing numerous nursing homes and homes for special care and provides financial support for selected patient care.

For information about these programs, or about health matters generally, please contact:

Ontario Department of Health,
Communications Branch,
Hepburn Block,
Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ontario.

Ontario's Education Programs

The Special Education Branch of Ontario's Department of Education, provides consultation to local school boards and to other individuals and organizations concerned with special educational programs and services for children and youth: the emotionally disturbed, those with learning disabilities, the physically handicapped which includes the visually handicapped and the hard of hearing, the mentally handicapped, students in Ontario Hospital Schools, and some Psychiatric Hospitals.

For information on



these areas, plus schools for the trainable retarded children, special vocational schools, schools for the blind and the deaf, and private schools for handicapped children contact:

Special Education Branch,
Ontario Department of Education,
16th Floor, Mowat Block,
Queen's Park, Toronto.
Tel: 365-2228

To apply for vocational rehabilitation services and the sheltered workshop program, or for more information on programs for the physically, emotionally or mentally handicapped, including services of the Ontario Government, other government levels, and private agencies, please contact the nearest Regional Office listed at the back or:
Vocational Rehabilitation Services Branch,
Ontario Department of Social and Family Services,
4th Floor, Hepburn Block,
Queen's Park, Toronto.
Tel: 365-2376.

For more information

BARRIE

110 Dunlop St. E.
Box 218. 726-8250

BELLEVILLE

Room 2, 14 Bridge St. W.
Box 816. 968-3506

CHATHAM

Weymar Bldg.
48-Fifth St. 352-5040

CORNWALL

132 Second St. E.
Box 1358. 932-3381

HAMILTON

Ste. 525, 135 James St. S.
Box 870. 528-9884

KEEWATIN

104 Government Rd.
Box 429. 547-2801

KINGSTON

797 Princess St.
Box 970. 544-6206

KIRKLAND LAKE

44 Prospect Ave.
567-3391

LONDON

764 Dundas St. E.
433-2821

NORTH BAY, Suite 408,

222 McIntyre St. W.
Box 327. 474-3540

OSHAWA

The Midtown Mall,
200 John St. W. 576-9001

OTTAWA

2197 East Riverside Dr.
Pebb Bldg. 737-5520

OWEN SOUND

347 Ninth St. E.
376-1951

PETERBOROUGH

249 Simcoe St.
743-1270

RENFREW

315 Raglan St. S.
432-4809

SAULT STE. MARIE

123 March St.
P.O. Box 68. 256-5666

ST. CATHARINES

15 Church St.
Box 176. 685-8423

SUDBURY

127 Cedar St.
Drawer 1120
674-3151 Ext. 271

THUNDER BAY

1111 Victoria Ave.
622-3934

TORONTO

110 Eglinton Ave. W.
365-5717

WATERLOO

5th Floor,
Waterloo Square,
75 King St. S.
579-3130

WINDSOR

374 Ouellette Ave.
254-9231

WINGHAM

Box 510
357-3370



The Honourable Thomas L. Wells,
Minister

M. Borczak,
Deputy Minister